



University of Guam CEDDERS
Guam System for Assistive Technology
Advisory Council
General Membership Meeting



Tuesday, October 21, 2014, 3:30-5:00pm
House 19 Deans Circle, UOG

(X) Lisa Ogo, Chairperson	(X) Lou Mesa	(X) Carla Torres (GSAT)
() Evelyn Duenas, Vice-Chairperson	() Tavita Faasuamalie	(X) Michelle Cruz (GLSC)
(X) Josephine Cortez, Secretary	() Bill Fuppul	(X) Marie Libria (GDDC)
(X) Vedalema Valencia, Member At Large	(X) Rudy Ignacio	(X) Ben Servino (DVR/ DISID)
() Roy Rosario, Member At Large	() Steve Fuppul	() Terese Crisostomo (GDOE)
(X) Barbara Johnson, Member-at-Large	(X) Dawn Maka	() Carina Raguindin (AHRD/ WIA)
	(X) Velmarie Valencia	(X) Kirsten Bamba (ASL Interpreter)

Minutes

I. Call to Order / Introductions

Meeting called to order at 3:49PM.

II. Review & Approval of Minutes:

Rudy Ignacio made a motion to approve minutes for the July 15, 2014, meeting. Lou Mesa seconds the motion. Minutes approved by acclamation.

III. New Business

A. Revision of By-Laws

GSAT Advisory Council by-laws haven't been updated since 2008. Carla proposed the newly elected officers take lead, with the support of a committee to update and revise them as necessary.

B. New Fiscal Year

Budget – GSAT has rid of their carry over and hence budget is tight. Current funds will cover expenses only through December and hope that the new award for FY 2015 is received soon. GSAT won't be ordering any new equipment any time soon. The AT programs are moving from US Department of Education (DOE) Rehab Services Administration (RSA) to the Administration on Community Living (ACL) under the US Department of Health and Human Services (HSS). RSA allowed for a carry over year of funds. Uncertain if ACL will. Decision made to spend it down to avoid losing it.

Calendar – Council calendars disseminated and content reviewed. Carla requested to have the next general membership meeting on January 27, 2015, in anticipation of being off island for MCH LEND, keeping the Executive Committee meeting on January 13, 2015. July 21st is Guam Liberation Day so the General Membership meeting to be held on July 28. Lou Mesa announced that the Autism Community Together is scheduled for April 11 at Agana Shopping Center.

End of Fiscal Year Reporting - Annual report to be submitted at end of December on the year's activities.

IV. Old Business

A. House 20 updates

House 20 is ready for moving in and will be the new AT Demo Center wherein devices can be out and set up in to create better hands-on experiences. GSAT hired a new office assistant, Andrew Gumataotao who has utilized GSAT services before in caring for a relative. He will help in transferring the equipment.

B. DISID Computer Center- underutilized: updates

Ben shared that originally the center was funded through a compact assistance grant and there is no longer the funds nor staff available to run the center. It is still being utilized by the community but not at the level as it was originally intended.

Thoughts of using Americorps volunteers to provide skills training, etc. Carla suggested collaborating with GSAT to use the center to provide device demonstrations as there is a variety AT devices and software programs at the center. Lou Mesa suggested having sign-in sheets to see the it's utilization. Ben responded that they have data but it's all hard copy. They are trying to work with Department of Administration to setup a system, so you can just log in and get an accumulation of that data, and for privacy.

V. Reports:

A. *Lucky 13: Financial Independence for People with Disabilities, A Report on Thirteen Years of Operation of the Alternative Financing Programs for Individuals with Disabilities*, published by the RESNA Catalyst Project, gave highlight to a Guam AT success story. Maria Pineda was on the front cover of the report and her story featured inside. Maria is a mutual client of GSAT and DVR. Their assistance has helped provide Maria with AT to overcome the challenges of vision loss and maintain employment with the Naval Hospital. This Guam highlight is quite an honor as it is a national publication and not all programs are highlighted.

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B. Quarterly Data (report attached)

In the recent CEDDERS newsletter, included is an article of a GOAL-AT application that was reviewed, approved, and serviced in one day with the application received only 4 days before that. There was urgency because the borrower was leaving for the Philippines and in dire need of hearing aids. Loans are not always processed that fast but a testament that GSAT really strives to meet people's needs.

C. New Equipment (listing attached)

Carla discussed the newly purchased equipment. Lisa asked what the minimum payment is on a GOAL – AT loan. Carla shared it depends on variables like the price and life of the device and what an individual can afford. The GOAL-AT Board decides with guidance from policies so as not to let the loan term exceed the life of the device.

VI. Election of Officers

By-laws indicate a member is eligible to vote when he or she has attended at least 3 of the 4 general membership meetings. These members were eligible: Josie, Michelle, Rudy, Barbara, Dawn, Carla, Ben, Lou, and Marie.

Nominations for Chairperson

Lisa nominates Vedalema Valencia(Vel). She declines but agrees to participate as a member. Lisa nominates Rudy, he accepts. Barbara nominates Dawn, she declines.

Dawn moves to close nominations for Chairperson. Carla seconds. Rudy assumes the Chairperson position by default as the only nominee. No vote needed.

Nominations for Vice Chairperson:

Barbara nominates Dawn. Dawn accepts. Rudy moves to close nominations. Lisa seconds the motion. Dawn assumes the Vice-Chairperson position by default as the only nominee. No vote needed.

Nominations for Secretary:

Lisa nominates Josie. She accepts. Lisa moves to close the nominations. Dawn seconds the motion. Josie assumes the secretary position by default as the only nominee. No vote needed.

Nominations for Member at Large

Lou nominates Lisa for Member at Large, she declines. Barbara nominates herself. Vel is nominated, she accepts. Lou was nominated but declines. Barbara and Vel moved into the positions of members-at-large by default as the only nominees. No vote needed. This leaves the nomination open for one position left to be filled at the January meeting.

VII. Committee Sign-up

A. Outreach

Carla will send out an email. She is proposing that within the committee we elect a chair so that person makes sure the committee meets and carries out its objective. Vedalema Valencia would like to be added to the Outreach Committee.

B. Ad-Hoc to Purchase Wheelchair Simulator

Lisa suggested the wheelchair committee ask Marlon Molinas to participate since he is a wheelchair user.

VIII. Open Discussion/ Announcements

- a. Michelle Cruz shared that GLSC –DLC does a lot of outreach presentations to individuals with disabilities, agency representatives. This fiscal year they are going out and talking to employers. Michelle did a presentation last week at the Rotary Club. She talked about GSAT and referred people over. GLSC-DLC is trying to get onto Guam Chamber of Commerce’s agenda hopefully at their next membership meeting in November. Michelle said it might be a good idea for GSAT to get on their agenda too.
- b. Dawn Maka is teaching at Upi Elementary in Yigo as a 3rd grade ESL teacher and has just been moved to as an ESL Coordinator for the school.
- c. Kirsten Bamba announced that ASL classes are available on Halloween at Agana Shopping Center. They are also signing children’s stories and songs tomorrow at Chamorro village and Sunday at Jeff Pirates Cove.
- d. Carla sent an email on Roger Voice- an app that offers real-time captioning on the cellphone. (Carla plays a demonstration video)

IX. Adjournment

Next Meeting January 27, 2015, 3:30-5:00PM